## **NEWS RELEASE**

## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

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For Immediate Release

## JUNE 12, 2006

Randy G. Massey, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on June 7, 2006, ROBERT EUGENE LEMMONS, SR., age 47, ROBERT EUGENE LEMMONS, JR., age 25, DANIEL J. LEMMONS, age 24, RACHEL L. TAYLOR, age 24, RICHARD L. ALLSUP, age 30, and JOHNNIE E. DIMITROFF, age 50, all of DuQuoin, Illinois, were charged in a fourteen-count Indictment returned by a Federal Grand Jury sitting in Benton, Illinois.

Count 1 charges that from on or about April 2005, through on or about May 12, 2006, in Perry County and elsewhere, ROBERT EUGENE LEMMONS, SR., ROBERT EUGENE LEMMONS, JR., DANIEL J. LEMMONS, RACHEL L. TAYLOR, RICHARD L. ALLSUP, and JOHNNIE E. DIMITROFF, did knowingly and intentionally combine, conspire, and agree with each other and with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, to knowingly and intentionally distribute diverse amounts of a mixture and substance containing methamphetamine, in violation of federal law. The Indictment alleges that the amount of mixture and substance containing methamphetamine involved in the conspiracy exceeds fifty (50) grams.

Counts 2-6 charge that on various dates, in Perry County, **ROBERT EUGENE LEMMONS, SR.,** did knowingly and intentionally distribute a mixture or substance containing methamphetamine in violation of federal law.

Counts 7-9 charge that on various dates, in Perry County, **ROBERT EUGENE LEMMONS, JR.,** did knowingly and intentionally distribute a mixture or substance containing methamphetamine in violation of federal law.

Count 10 charges that on October 20, 2005, in Perry County, **DANIEL J. LEMMONS**, did knowingly and intentionally distribute a mixture or substance containing methamphetamine, in violation of federal law.

Counts 11 and 12 charge that on January 7, 2006, and January 28, 2006, respectively, in Perry County, **DANIEL J. LEMMONS**, and **RACHEL L. TAYLOR**, did knowingly and intentionally

distribute a mixture or substance containing methamphetamine, in violation of federal law.

Count 13 charges that on April 22, 2006, in Perry County, **RICHARD L. ALLSUP**, did knowingly and intentionally distribute a mixture or substance containing methamphetamine, in violation of federal law.

Count 14 charges that on April 25, 2005, in Perry County, **JOHNNIE E. DIMITROFF**, did knowingly and intentionally distribute a mixture or substance containing methamphetamine, in violation of federal law.

With respect to Count 1, all the defendants face a penalty of 5-40 years' imprisonment, a fine of up to \$2,000,000, and a term of supervised release of at least 4 years.

With respect to each of Counts 2-14, the defendant charged faces a penalty of up to 20 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$1,000,000, and a term of supervised release of at least 3 years.

An indictment is a formal charge against a defendant. Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury.

The investigation was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the United States Marshal Service, the Perry County Drug Task Force, the DuQuoin Police Department, the Pinckneyville Police Department, and the Illinois State Police pursuant to their participation in the Perry County Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. Under the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative, federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutors are working together to prosecute drug dealers, felons in possession of firearms, and criminals that use firearms to commit violent offenses or drug trafficking offenses in the judicial system that will get them the most time.

In addition, the Perry County States Attorney's Office has assisted throughout the investigation and has prosecuted a number of individuals in related cases in Perry County Circuit Court.

The case is being handled by Assistant United States Attorneys George Norwood and Amanda Robertson.